

Indiana and Michigan News

SHEFFER BATTLES TO CLEAR HIMSELF

"Mystery Man" Denies Firing Shot Which Resulted in Brother's Death.

ANGOLA, Ind., Dec. 15.—Nis Sheffer, the mystery man of "Angola" late yesterday took the stand in an effort to clear himself of the charge of murdering his brother, James W. Sheffer, and his wife, Nis's appearance on the stand brought the trial to a grand climax.

Nis, no longer the cowed tent dweller, raised his voice with feeling as he answered the questions propounded to him.

"He betrayed me; he fired the shot that killed my brother, James," asked Atty. Gleason.

"Most positively no," was the answer.

"Mr. Sheffer, do you know who did the shooting?" again asked Gleason.

"Most positively no."

Nis went further than to deny that he had nothing to do with the murder. He declared that he did not know it took place in the Sheffer garage until a few weeks ago.

Denies Charge.

Nis declared that the statement of his divorced wife, Irma, was absolutely false when she said he had threatened his brother.

"I never said that, I don't know why she wanted to say that," he said.

Confronted with the gun, which it is claimed he owned at the time of the explosion, he declared that it did not belong to him. The deposition of John Sheffer, father of Jim and Nis, was read to the court. It was filled with rare comment of an old man who wanders back to other days. Like Nis and his wife, the father defended the family love of the Sheffers and said he might have been to blame for his trouble with Nis over the old home farm.

Case Nears Jury.

One of the questions and answers contained in the deposition was "were Jim and Nis friendly?"

"Friendly—passed jokes to each other—probably kind of teased each other a little bit—you know, I can't explain that. Friendly as anybody could be."

The case will probably go to the jury tomorrow, attorneys predict.

MICHIGAN GRANGE ELECTS OFFICERS

A. B. Cook of Owosso Again Chosen Master—Grand Rapids Gets Meet.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Dec. 15.—A. B. Cook of Owosso was re-elected master of the state Grange here Thursday and Muskegon was chosen over Grand Rapids, and a number of other cities, for the 1923 meeting place of the organization.

Other officers elected, announced by the canvassers early in the evening were: Overseer, C. H. Bramble, Lansing; lecturer, Mrs. Dora Stockman, Lansing; chaplain, Mrs. O. J. C. Woodman, Paw Paw; treasurer, Frank Coward, Bronson; secretary, Mrs. Jennie Buel, Ann Arbor.

Study Home Marketing.

While the grangers at their golden jubilee convention were balloting on new officers, they had before them a plan for a state marketing system, advanced by President David Friday of Michigan Agricultural college.

Under the Friday plan, as explained at a banquet of the grangers, Michigan would consume only food grown within the state, saving the cost of long hauls from other states and thereby enabling Michigan farmers to get an increased price for their products without any additional expense to Michigan consumers. Announcement of the result of the election, held under the Australian ballot system, was not expected until late Thursday night.

Removal of Michigan farm products from the international market, reserving them for home consumption, was advocated by Dr. Friday as a means of increasing returns to the farmers of this state without increasing the cost of foodstuffs to consumers.

BIRTHDAY OF LEGION HOSPITAL OBSERVED

BATTLESCHIEF, Dec. 15.—Gov. Greenback and members of the state administrative and hospital boards were in Battle Creek Friday to attend the first anniversary of the founding of Roosevelt American Legion hospital.

Only a small sector of the 1922 additions to the hospital were ready for inspection, but several of the cottages are near completion, and the next move is to construct the connecting roadway. During the year, there have been 500 tuberculosis patients at the hospital, of whom 54 were discharged as cured and only 12 died.

In many cases, the men were brought here on stretchers from other institutions. Thursday afternoon, the vets erected a Christmas tree, and decorated it with trimmings, furnished by the Battle Creek service flag club.

May Use Garbage As Fuel in City Electric Plant

DETROIT, Dec. 15.—A plant for the reduction of city garbage, which will produce gas with which electricity may be generated at a very low cost, will be built in Detroit if the city council approves the recommendation of Joseph A. Martin, commissioner of public works. The plan is to be built for experimental purposes by the National Gas and Power Co., of Indianapolis, according to a proposal submitted Thursday by the president of the company to Commissioner Martin.

John U. McDonald, president of the company and inventor of the McDonald process of making artificial gas, has been conferring with the commissioner for some weeks.

Sen. Cousens, when mayor of the city, also gave the matter consideration and recommended that the D. P. W. chief make a thorough investigation.

Would Build Own Plant.

The inventor convinced Martin that the new process was worthy of a trial, but as it was an experiment the commissioner refused to use public money to construct a plant. The company is now willing to build this experimental plant at its own cost and asks the council to assure it of some city garbage for reduction in the event it can be proven that the new process is more economical than the system now in use.

By the new process garbage collected is used to generate gas, which in turn is used to produce steam to operate electric dynamo. McDonald claims that gas can be produced by his company's system for 17 cents per 1,000 cubic feet. Detroit domestic gas consumers now pay 79 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, while industrial users pay from 59 to 73 cents.

According to McDonald sufficient gas can be produced in Detroit by the reduction of garbage to run a large portion of the city's street railways. The system which he proposes to install calls for one ton of coal to every two tons of garbage. He said his company is willing to take all the risk, providing that it obtains city business in the event it can reduce garbage and produce gas and electricity cheaper than any systems now in use here.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 15.—(By I. N. S.)—Police are seeking the occupants of an automobile abandoned in the western part of the city and which it is believed may figure in the murder of W. J. Schaffer and his wife, Susan, on a farm 12 miles north of New Castle, Ind., last Tuesday. A hatchet that bore what seemed to be bloodstains was found in the car.

Wife Alleges Husband Is Jealous of Her Brother

WARSAW, Dec. 15.—Charging that her husband has been guilty of cruelty during the last three years and alleging that he is jealous of her own brother, Hattie Butler of Warsaw began suit for divorce in the Kosciusko circuit court on the fifth anniversary of her marriage, naming Charles Butler as defendant.

The woman created a scene in the business district of Warsaw last night by following and challenging two women, who she charged were planning to meet her husband, Oliver Earl Burwell, and advised her to go to her home.

STATE USES LARGE SUPPLY OF GASOLINE

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 15.—A 10 cent tax on every gallon of gasoline used in motor vehicles a year would bring nearly \$2,000,000 into the state treasury according to L. L. Miller, state chemist, today.

He based his assertion on the number of gallons used the first nine months of this year. There were 102,717,350 gallons used in motor vehicles during that time, Miller said.

Adam Beecher, Florist, Main 1599—Two Stores—Lin. 6989 Adv. 246-251.

THE CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS TIME

The mother of these four children says that she has used Father John's Medicine for the past twenty years and in cases of severe colds she believes it has no equal. In a recent letter she said, "I have used Father John's Medicine for twenty years. I knew of its value and used it long before I was married. I have given it to all of my four children and for croup and severe colds I think it is very good." (Signed) Mrs. Rose G. Kuffe, White Plains, N. Y.

Millions of mothers depend on Father John's Medicine to keep their children well and strong and to restore their strength after any illness. They know that it has had more than 65 years of success for colds and coughs and as a tonic and body builder.

PLAYER ROLLS FOR CHRISTMAS AND ALL TIMES

Silent Night, Holy Night—Star of the East—Yuletide Medley—O Come All Ye Faithful

Tomorrow, Homesick—3 O'Clock in the Morning—Hawaiian Nightingale—Lovin' Sam (The Sheik of Alabama) And a number of others

ROSE & ROSE 228 S. MICHIGAN STREET OPEN EVENINGS

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DETECTIVE TELLS OF WOMAN'S PLOT

Testifies on Mrs. Ney Ford's Careful Plans to Get Rid of Husband.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 15.—How Mrs. May Blenn Hallett Ford explained in detail to Edward Kunath, detective lieutenant posing as a Kansas City gunman, her alleged plan to kill her husband Ney J. Ford, was told by Kunath, first witness called when Mrs. Ford appeared for examination.

Mrs. Ford appeared very composed in court.

"Mrs. Ford told me," Kunath testified, "that she had implicit confidence in Burton, whom she had asked to find for her a criminal, character capable of carrying out her designs on the life of her husband."

"Just rap him on the jaw, wrap him in hay and take him away. When you get him 29 or 30 miles from the farm burn him up. You will have gasoline and it will be easy. It won't do to bury him because there will be fresh turned soil and it won't do to drown him because his damned neck might get disoriented and his head would come up. Then, good night," she was quoted as saying.

While Mrs. Ford outlined the plans, an officer listened through a hole in the wall, Kunath swore.

"A day or two before you do the job," she said, according to the witness, "I will throw another fit. I'll be looney as hell and they'll have to take me to the hospital."

The witness told how Mrs. Ford described her wedding right.

"She told me," said Kunath, "she bought a night gown and night cap for \$17. Ford said when he saw her in it, according to her story: 'My God, I never saw anything like it outside a show.'"

The hearing was adjourned until Saturday when the court will pass on a motion to dismiss the case.

CAPTAIN IN ARMY HELD FOR BIGAMY

Pike Placed in Lake County Jail After Being Taken From Arms of Bride.

CROWN POINT, Ind., Dec. 15.—(By I. N. S.)—Capt. Charles Pike, assistant surgeon in the Chicago Marine hospital, who was "kidnaped" by Indiana authorities from the arms of his bride of a month in Chicago last night, was lodged in the Lake county jail here today, preparatory to his arraignment on a charge of bigamy.

Capt. Pike is charged with having had a "common law" wife in Pennsylvania before he married the daughter of Atty. Louis A. Heile, of Chicago, here a month ago.

HUNTERS ACTIVE

WARSAW, Ind., Dec. 15.—County Clerk R. H. Butler Friday estimated that 500 to 800 rabbit hunters took to the fields and woods of Kosciusko county Thursday and Friday in search of the cottontails, the snow of Wednesday night and Thursday providing the first opportunity to track the animals.

HEAVY SNOW FALLS

CLAYPOOL, Dec. 15.—Ten inches of snow fell over Claypool and Clay township Thursday and Friday. The snow here is twice as deep as that experienced at Warsaw and in the north part of Kosciusko county.

SPEEDER FINED

WARSAW, Dec. 15.—Charged with speeding in an automobile over the streets of Warsaw, Fred Snyder, 19, was fined \$1 and costs Friday by Mayor J. A. Sloane.

FORMER RESIDENT DIES

WINONA LAKE, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Charles Nelson, former resident of Winona Lake, is dead at Loganport, according to a message received here today.

Buy now, pay in 1923. Block Bros. South Bend's Finest Jewelers, 229 S. Michigan st. Adv. 342-357

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DUAL AX MURDER PUZZLES POLICE

Brookshire Denies He Had Part in Brutal Killing of Couple on Farm.

NEW CASTLE, Ind., Dec. 15.—Three days after finding of the bodies, the mystery hatchet killing of Billy Shaffer and his wife, Susie, at their farm, 12 miles north of here, was no nearer solution.

Benny Brookshire, intimate friend and former employee held in jail here for the convening of the grand jury and its investigation next week, steadfastly declares his innocence of any knowledge of the crime.

"The Shaffers were like a father and mother to me for four years," he said. "I wouldn't have touched a hair on their heads."

"The baby, Billy, stayed out there as much as I did. I played with him sometimes. Any one who knows me will tell you that I wouldn't leave a little fellow like that without water or food six days."

"I have nothing else to say. I have said that I am innocent."

Tennessee Road Body May Adopt Indiana's System

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 15.—(By I. N. S.)—Commendation of the system of auditing used by the Indiana state highway commission, is contained in a letter received by the commission from the auditor of the Tennessee highway department, W. H. Puryear, who recently visited here.

In his letter, referring to the accounting system, Mr. Puryear said, "It gives me much pleasure to say I found one of the best organized departments in that line I ever have had the pleasure of visiting. A good many features of accounting which you have in effect, I shall be pleased to recommend to the Tennessee highway commission to use in operating this department."

Radio Wire Summons Fire Fighters on False Alarm

PERU, Dec. 15.—(By I. N. S.)—The entire equipment of the Peru fire department dashed forth here with sirens screaming and firemen hanging over the sides of the trucks, only to find that a wire on a radio aerial had fallen across the apparatus of a fire alarm box, and set off the signal.

Now the fire chief declares that if the radio craze continues aerial offenders will be prosecuted.

Miami County Farmers to War on Thieves, Road Hogs

PERU, Dec. 15.—(By I. N. S.)—Road hogs, thieves and barn burners, who have asserted themselves in Miami county during the past few months, have become the targets of the Miami County Detective association, which claims nearly every farmer for a member and which met here recently to draft a plan of action.

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